

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-76 are currently pending. Claims 2 and 3 have been amended to clarify the scope of said claims. Claims 4, 37 and 60 have been amended to correct typographical and grammatical errors. No new matter has been introduced by way of these amendments.

Further, Applicant has elected to conform to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(b) at this time by canceling claims 5, 6, 8, 10-21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 32-36, 38-40, 44, 45, 48, 50-52, 54-56 and 62-64. Upon entry of these amendments, claims 1-4, 7, 9, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 31, 37, 41-43, 46, 47, 49, 53, 57-61 and 65-76 will be pending.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction between the following two groups:

Group I - Claims 1-64, drawn to a method for typing a target gene; and

Group II - Claims 65-76, drawn to an oligonucleotide probe and an array of oligonucleotide probes for typing a HLA target gene.

The Examiner has further required that, in the event Applicant decides to elect Group I for further prosecution, Applicant must choose a single probe from Table 1 for claims 62-64.

Applicant hereby provisionally elects, without traverse, **Group I (claims 1-64)** for continued examination.

The nucleotide probe election requirement has been rendered moot by the aforesaid cancellation of claims 62-64.

Applicant expressly reserves the right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file a divisional application directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

Applicant requests entry of the aforesaid amendments and examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

CONCLUSION

If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **docket no. 514572001200**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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